TEL MONROE 353

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HOW MIKE DE PIKE HEITLER DID SOME HEAVY FORGETTING ON THE WITNESS STAND

Whenever the other newspapers have wanted to slip something over on the people, their favorite game has been to start a great uproar about fallen women, police corruption, or such political bosses as Barney Grogan or Alderman Kenna and Coughlin.

Under cover of this noise, they generally have been able to put across their own little stunt without attracting any undue atten-

tion.

A few weeks ago, a most suspicious turmoil about fallen women was started by the trust newspapers. They worked themselves into a perfect frenzy about vice, and State's Attorney Wayman blew up without even a loud bang.

And nothing at all was done about vice, except that the Chicago Women's Protective (?) League came in for a lot of un-

pleasant notice.

So the newspapers cleared decks for action again, and started a seemingly searching inquiry into the life, morals and general conduct of Boss Grogan.

And nothing at all-has come

out of that so far,

But now the enthusiasm of the newspapers is turned on the Desplaines street police station, and there is much talk of graft and a civil service commission inquiry.

All of which is cause for deep thought, in view of the following

facts:

No police station in Chicago is run the way it ought to be. And none ever will be until the force secures a decree of absolute divorce from politics, to say nothing of Andy Lawrences.

But the West Side at the present time is the cleanest district in the city, and Police Captain Meagher of Desplaines street and his associates are responsible for

that.

Meagher recently was given a vacation, and invited to take a trip to San Francisco-or Timbuctoo. Now certain persons are demanding to know how it comes that Meagher is out of the city at the time a scandal "happened" to break in his department.

There also is the curious enthulasm shown by the newspapers run by one Andy Lawrence just as the fire is turned on the Des-

plaines street station.